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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for redistribution of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news published herein.

The armistice is three months old but is not growing very fast.

Our only vice-president is living up to the best traditions of that position.

According to recent indications, the league of nations is to be armed with something besides a stuffed club.

Vermont would treasure that one battle flag most highly. The emblem would have an honored place with the collection at the State House.

Vermont women seem to have received in silence the information that they have been emancipated again to the extent of the presidential elector suffrage.

There is no strenuous competition yet to determine which aviator will be the first to negotiate the trans-Atlantic flight, but it is a feat that is bound to be accomplished.

The bolsheviki operating under the name of Americans but who really are aliens and have no claim on the United States are on their way eastward. Speed the departing guests!

Although the American casualties in the Archangel region have been only 400, it must be admitted that even so we do not seem to have received reward sufficient for the sacrifice—not yet.

It is worthy of note that the "No bear, no bonds" slogan has been repudiated by labor leaders in New Jersey and classed as enemy propaganda. It certainly is hostile to the best interests of the United States.

The total number of American soldiers still listed as missing is materially reduced, from 10,000 to 7,783. There is reason to hope that most of these thousands still considered missing will turn up in due time.

Vermont has her first legal electrocution in prospect in the Kelsey case at Newport. It was some time ago that the state substituted electrocution in place of hanging, but there never has been resort to the death penalty since that enactment.

The "Americanization" of Connecticut is now well under way, no less than 77 of the 168 towns in the state having adopted the plans along the lines outlined for them. The "melting pot" has been operating too slowly in a large number of sections of the whole country.

One of the saddest words of tongue or pen for the Germans is that they have lost the potash monopoly because of their rashness in starting the world war. The world declared its independence of Germany at the same time as it took up the sword to defend itself against Germany.

The advertisements are beginning to appear in the city papers for homes wanted in the country districts for the summer. Have we Vermonters any homes we would be willing to rent for the summer? If so, and providing the surroundings are such as to lend the vacation flavor, now is the time to be letting the public know about them.

If Germany really desires a renewal of the war, there are at least two million men fully armed and equipped—the best fighting men in the world—who will be ready to accommodate them with about the stiffest brand of war the Germans ever ran up against. This is not a threat; it is cold fact. The saner minds of the new German nation undoubtedly recognize the fact but some of the hot-heads continue to jingo their way along.

The use of tanks to put down disorders in industrial strikes seems to us an unnecessarily brutal method of coping with situations that are likely to arise in American communities; and the sort of opposition to law and order does not require that the representatives of law and order shall be protected by the sheet armor of tanks. The proposal said to have been made by some officers of volunteer militia organizations in New York is too drastic to find favor among the people of the United States.

The degree of publicity now given to the names of ships returning with American troops, as well as to the names of the units being transported, stands out in marked contrast to the strict silence which was maintained by the United States and the allied governments when those same ships and those same soldiers were eastward bound. The contrast serves to accentuate the deprivation as to news which the American people willingly suffered in order to safeguard the lives of the men who were going to the battle areas. It was one of our minor sacrifices of the war but quite important.

The battleship Vermont has arrived with a shipload of soldiers but not the Vermonters of the 26th division. Moreover, it is probable that the war department has no information concerning the time when the 26th division will be sent home. In his address in Boston on Saturday Secretary of War Baker deepened

the cloud of mystery over the probable time for the embarkation of the 26th by saying that when they did come they would be unloaded at Boston, which was really little new information and which outlined a course that might be considered the most reasonable inasmuch as a large proportion of the men, replacements and all, come from New England and should be put ashore at the port nearest to their homes.

LET THE BOARD OF CONTROL DO IT.

With a board of control making frequent inspections of state institutions in Vermont, it seems superfluous for legislative committees to go junketing through the several institutions. To be sure, it is custom, and custom long established, which has seemed to give the present legislature the authority for going ahead and ordering these junkets which take a considerable percentage of the legislative membership the better part of a work-week; but, at the same time, custom was changed with the creation of the state board of control and the director of state institutions, and the necessity for these legislative junkets has been largely, if not completely, removed. The time spent by these junketing committees could much more profitably be spent in attention to the legislative duties lying immediately ahead; and the work of the legislature might be expedited considerably by the presence of these men in their places in the Senate and the House. Why not let the board of control do this work?

CURRENT COMMENT

The British Strikes.

The rioting in Glasgow and the even more alarming spectacle in Belfast, where a sort of women's soviet is in control and preserving "order" with the co-operation of the legal authorities, are not to be lightly explained by the presence of foreign agitators. Both are cities of native Britishers—Belfast about as much Scotch as Irish—and the labor unrest is native except so far as the radicalism which moves it has its counterpart in other countries. The explanation of Sir Robert Horne, minister of labor, is illuminating. He points out that in several districts the most extreme sections of labor dominated by radical young men have thrown over the bargains made by the older labor leaders with their employers. In the powerful trades of shipbuilding and engineering an agreement for a 47-hour week—less than the eight-hour day—had been reached; yet in Glasgow the men breaking faith have struck for a 44-hour week and in Belfast for a 40-hour week. In Belfast deliberate rioting in order to provoke government intervention seems to have had for its direct object the discrediting of the responsible labor leaders.

The conduct of these disturbers is evidently directed not toward the redress of specific wrongs but toward the upset of the whole system by "direct action," that is, it is revolutionary syndicalism, or "I. W. W.-ism." But this destructive philosophy has repeatedly proved its weakness as the inspirer of sustained effort, and it appears altogether probable that the rank and file, and real leadership, of British labor—even in Glasgow and Belfast—are in a great majority against it.—Springfield Republican.

McCain and His Men.

The last few days have witnessed the breaking up of the Plymouth division, that splendid body of young Americans who trained at Camp Devens during the closing months of the war. The end of the organization remains, for it is to be one of the divisions of peace army. But most of its members are returning to their civilian pursuits. For them there is the satisfaction which comes from patriotic service faithfully rendered, and from the knowledge that as a unit they reached in a very few months an organized efficiency which won praise from the military experts at Washington, as among the highest attained in the army. To Major General Henry Pinckney McCain, in whose hands the command of the Plymouth division has stood since last summer, the passing of the organization is tinged with sadness. As an American he rejoiced in the early cessation of the war and its sufferings, but as a soldier he regrets the necessity which takes from him the boys whose interests he has so jealously guarded and for whom he had come to feel an affection akin to that of a parent.

When the general was assigned to Camp Devens in the latter days of August, he faced a task which would have disheartened a less courageous officer. The war department had given him two regular army regiments as a nucleus, but even these were for the most part drafted men with little military experience. The remaining units comprised sturdy New England boys fresh from farm and factory and office. And still the cry was lifted, "In France before the snow flies." No simple task this—to prepare a raw division for overseas service in less than three months. Yet it was done. In October inspectors came on from Washington. Their satisfaction with what they saw soon became evident. The 12th division was raised to a high place on the shipping schedule; the advance school detachment received its orders and sailed for France; the rest of the division was to be momentarily ready. For two weeks the camp bustled with the activity of final preparation. Indeed, it was days after the armistice had been signed before the machinery of the camp began to slow down, as the knowledge gradually sank into the mind of officers and men that the division was not to go, after all.

This brief military history, however, does not begin to tell how much General McCain had to do with it. He and the Plymouth division, it should be understood, constitute outstanding examples of the French idea that the personality of the commander is the greatest single factor in the fighting efficiency of a military organization. Very early the general began to bring the idea into the realm of actuality—to let his soldiers know and feel his presence. He dropped in upon them—at formations, at mess, in their hours of recreation. They soon understood, too, that he came not to spy upon them but to offer help wherever help was needed. During the epidemic he lost no opportunity to cheer the

1809---Lincoln---1919

The world only celebrates the birthdays of the men who never die. Lincoln as a personality is a fading memory, but Lincoln, as the incarnation of a great principle, is immortal.

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How little did the great Emancipator realize when he uttered those memorable words, "We here highly resolve that these men shall not have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom," that in a little over half a century the sons of the men who offered their lives for a new national birth of freedom should go forth to foreign shores to die that the world should have a new birth of freedom.

It is especially fitting that we should honor his memory this year with renewed reverence.

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stricken men. He risked infection himself by daily visiting the hospital, where he passed up and down among the long lines of sick and dying. When the soldiers learned, after the armistice, that the general had remained up all one night to be ready to receive the homecoming members of the 76th division, they were not surprised. They had come to know such an act as characteristic of their commander.

In a strictly military sense, the general was more of a student than any man in the line. His spare moments from early morning till late at night were taken up with painstaking study of all that the war had contributed to military science. He persistently refused invitations to speak or appear at functions outside of the camp, knowing that these would steal time from his investigations and from the men's progress.

Through no fault of its own, the 12th division, so prepared, never had a chance to contribute its might directly to the downfall of Germany. It will always be a comfort to the men, none the less, to know that they were ready had the occasion demanded. And companion to this thought will be their memories of the man who trained them. He himself called it the Plymouth division—gracious compliment to the forefathers of the section from which most of his boys came; they will remember it longer as "McCain's Own."—Boston Transcript.

Tom the Tripper.

"Tom's a good fellow, but he makes some awful breaks." "I should say so. If there's a gap in the conversation he is sure to put his foot in it."—Boston Transcript.

Exceptionally Rare.

Dealer in antique—Here, sir, is a rare old revolver that was carried by Christopher Columbus. Customer—What? Why, revolvers were not invented in Columbus' time. Dealer—I know. That's what makes this one so rare.—Boston Transcript.

Hooked Up.

"That tall girl over there took a medal for the beauty show." "She isn't such a beauty." "No; but she's a kleptomaniac."—Boston Transcript.

His Chance.

Carter—Aren't you drinking a little more than usual? Cuthbert—Yes; my wife has a cold in her head and can't smell a blame thing.—Boston Transcript.

At Him Again.

Sappy—Smoking helps me to think. She—When did you stop using tobacco?—Boston Transcript.

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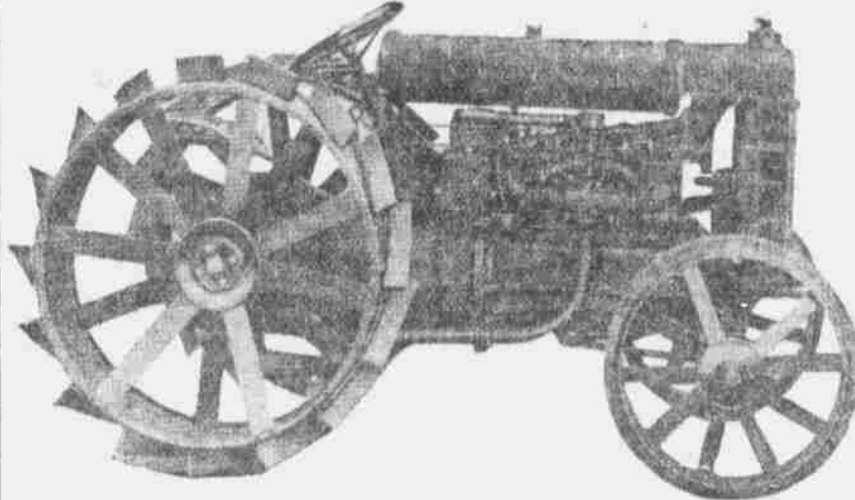
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